

25. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 24, wherein a deflection angle defined between a plane in which the loop shaped direction extends and a relative movement direction of the transfer film is set to be within a range of plus or minus 90 degrees.

26. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 24, wherein an immersion attitude angle defined between a plane in which the loop shaped direction extends and the surface of the transfer liquid is set to be within a range of plus or minus 10 to 90 degrees.

27. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 24, wherein:  
the loop shaped workpiece comprises a steering wheel component having a transfer-not-required portion;  
said downwardly immersing comprises initially immersing the steering wheel component in the transfer liquid at the transfer-not-required portion; and  
said moving the loop shaped workpiece in the loop shaped direction comprises rotating the steering wheel component while maintaining the attitude of the workpiece to the surface of the transfer liquid the same at the transfer initiating site during transfer of the transfer pattern.

30. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 45, wherein a deflection angle defined between a plane in which the loop shaped direction extends and a relative movement direction of the transfer film is set to be within a range of plus or minus 90 degrees.

31. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 30, wherein an immersion attitude angle defined between a plane in which the loop shaped direction extends and the surface of the transfer liquid is set to be within a range of plus or minus 10 to 90 degrees.

32. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 30, wherein:  
the loop shaped workpiece comprises a steering wheel component having a transfer-not-required portion;

said downwardly immersing comprises initially immersing the steering wheel component in the transfer liquid at the transfer-not-required portion; and

said moving the loop shaped workpiece in the loop shaped direction comprises rotating the steering wheel component while maintaining the attitude of the workpiece to the surface of the transfer liquid the same at the transfer initiating site during transfer of the transfer pattern.

35. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 45, wherein an immersion attitude angle defined between a plane in which the loop shaped direction extends and the surface of the transfer liquid is set to be within a range of plus or minus 10 to 90 degrees.

36. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 35, wherein:  
the loop shaped workpiece comprises a steering wheel component having a transfer-not-required portion;

said downwardly immersing comprises initially immersing the steering wheel component in the transfer liquid at the transfer-not-required portion; and

said moving the loop shaped workpiece in the loop shaped direction comprises rotating the steering wheel component while maintaining the attitude of the workpiece to the surface of the transfer liquid the same at the transfer initiating site during transfer of the transfer pattern.

39. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 45, wherein:  
the loop shaped workpiece comprises a steering wheel component having a transfer-not-required portion;

said downwardly immersing comprises initially immersing the steering wheel component in the transfer liquid at the transfer-not-required portion; and

said moving the loop shaped workpiece in the loop shaped direction comprises rotating the steering wheel component while maintaining the attitude of the workpiece to the surface of the transfer liquid the same at the transfer initiating site during transfer of the transfer pattern.

42. (Amended) The liquid pressure transfer method of claim 45, wherein:

the loop shaped workpiece comprises a steering wheel component having a front side and a rear side, the front side defined as being intended to face a driver's seat when mounted on a vehicle and the rear side defined as being substantially out of view from a driver's seat when mounted on a vehicle; and

said downwardly immersing comprises immersing the steering wheel component such that the transfer pattern is transferred to the surface of the steering wheel component with a joint line of the transfer pattern formed on the rear surface of the steering wheel component.

**Please add the following new claim:**

45. (New) A liquid pressure transfer method, comprising:

supporting a transfer film on a surface of a transfer liquid by floating the transfer film on the liquid, wherein the transfer film has a transfer pattern for decoration printed thereon;

downwardly immersing a loop shaped workpiece in the transfer liquid so as to transfer the transfer film to a surface of the loop shaped workpiece for decorating the workpiece such that a plane of the surface of the transfer liquid at a transfer initiating site extends through the loop shaped workpiece;

wherein the loop shaped workpiece has a loop shaped direction in which the workpiece extends and a thickness direction which is perpendicular to the loop shaped direction in which the workpiece extends;

wherein said downwardly immersing comprises moving the loop shaped workpiece along the loop shaped direction in which the workpiece extends at the transfer initiating site so as to continuously immerse the loop shaped workpiece in the transfer liquid while maintaining the attitude of the workpiece to the surface of the transfer liquid the same such that a circumference of a cross section of the loop shaped workpiece, taken in the thickness direction of the loop shaped workpiece, is substantially concurrently contacted with the transfer film at the transfer initiating site; and

moving at least one of the loop shaped workpiece and the transfer film during said downwardly immersing such that a portion of the transfer film which has not yet been used for transfer printing can be used for transfer printing.